

COMPLETE LIST OF CLAIMS

The following is a complete list of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing communication within a community, the method comprising:
 - (a) establishing a hierarchical structure for organizing communications between a plurality of users within the community;
 - (b) distributing control through selection of inherited parameters of said hierarchical structure to at least one of said plurality of users, wherein said inherited parameters comprise parameters defining access by said plurality of users to said communications organized within said hierarchical structure;
 - (c) storing in said hierarchical structure at least a portion of said communications received from said plurality of users from at least one of a plurality of input devices in relation to at least one of a plurality of topics that is user selected;
 - (z) providing a link to a resource associated with said at least a portion of said communications that is stored, wherein said link is available for access by authorized users of said plurality of users;
 - (d) prioritizing said at least a portion of said communications within said hierarchical structure;
 - (e) presenting to at least a one of said plurality of users through said at least one of a plurality of input devices a selected portion of said communications stored in said hierarchical structure, wherein said selected portion of said communications are related under said at least one of a plurality of topics that is user selected ~~a topic~~; and
 - (f) enabling dynamic interaction through further contributions of communications by said at least a one of said

68 plurality of users through said at least one of a plurality of
input devices in response to presentation of said selected
70 portion of said communications within said hierarchical
structure, wherein said further contributions of
72 communications are stored and accessed within said
hierarchical structure in relation to said topic, wherein said
74 further contributions are associated with at least one
discussion thread comprising a recorded communication under
76 said at least one of a plurality of topics that is conducted
between participating users of said plurality of users.
78

2. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
80 within a community according to claim 1 wherein said
establishing a hierarchical structure further comprises:
82 creating a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-
level subject;
84 creating at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said
at least one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level
86 subject related to at least one of said at least one top-level
subject; and
88 creating a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-
level subject related to at least one of said at least one
90 mid-level subject, wherein each of said stored communications
becomes an item indexed to at least one of said at least one
92 low-level subject.

3. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
94 within a community according to claim 2 wherein said
distributing control through inherited parameters of said
96 hierarchical structure further comprises:
98 assigning at least one top-level leader for each of said
at least one top-level subject;
100 assigning at least one mid-level leader for each of said
at least one mid-level subject; and

102 assigning at least one low-level leader for each of said
at least one low-level subject.

104

106 4. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 3 wherein said
distributing control through inherited parameters of said
108 hierarchical structure further comprises:

110 assigning at least one of said inherited parameters to
each of said at least one top-level subject, wherein said at
least one of said inherited parameters controls input or
112 access to a database function by said at least one top-level
leader associated with said at least one top-level subject;

114 assigning at least one of said inherited parameters to
each of said at least one mid-level subject, wherein said at
116 least one of said inherited parameters controls input or
access to a database function by said at least one mid-level
118 leader associated with said at least one mid-level subject;
and

120 assigning at least one of said inherited parameters to
each of said at least one low-level subject, wherein said at
122 least one of said inherited parameters controls input or
access to a database function by said at least one low-level
124 leader associated with said at least one low-level subject.

126 5. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 4:

128 wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters
assigned to each of said at least one low-level subject is
130 inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to
said at least one low-level subject, and

132 further wherein said at least one of said inherited
parameters assigned to each of said at least one mid-level
134 subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject
related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

136 further wherein said at least one of said inherited

parameters assigned to each of said at least one top-level
138 subject is inherited from a web master.

140 6. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 5:
142 wherein said at least one parameter inherited by each of
said at least one low-level subject is the same as, or
144 narrower in scope, than said at least one parameter assigned
to each of said at least one mid-level subject related to said
146 at least one low-level subject, and
further wherein said at least one parameter inherited by
148 each of said at least one mid-level subject is the same as, or
narrower in scope, than said at least one parameter assigned
150 to each of said at least one top-level subject related to said
at least one mid-level subject.

152
 7. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
154 within a community according to claim 6:
 wherein said at least one of said inherited parameters
156 assigned to each of said at least one top-level subject is
inherited from a web master, and
158 further wherein said at least one parameter inherited by
each of said at least one top-level subject is the same as, or
160 narrower in scope, than said at least one parameter assigned
to each of said at least one top-level subject by said web
162 master.

164 8. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 7:
166 wherein each of said inherited parameters comprises a one
of a privacy parameter, screening parameter, input parameter,
168 user ID parameter, and an approval parameter.

170 9. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 8:

172 wherein each of said inherited parameters has at least
one access level, wherein a higher one of each of said at
174 least one access level provides more management control than a
lower one of each of said at least one access level.

176

10. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
178 within a community according to claim 7 wherein said
distributing control through inherited parameters of said
180 hierarchical structure further comprises:

allowing said at least one top-level leader associated
182 with said at least one top-level subject, said at least one
mid-level leader associated with said at least one mid-level
184 subject, and said at least one low-level leader associated
with said at least one mid-level subject, to change
186 respectively said at least one access level of said inherited
parameters at any time.

188

11. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
190 within a community according to claim 1 wherein said
distributing control through inherited parameters of said
192 hierarchical structure further comprises:

assigning an access status to each of said plurality of
194 users,

wherein said access status comprises a one of an
196 inclusive access and an exclusive access, and

further wherein said inclusive access allows access to
198 each of said stored communications in said hierarchical
structure except where excluded by said inherited parameters,
200 and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to
202 each of said stored communications in said hierarchical
structure only where explicitly assigned.

204

12. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
206 within a community according to claim 1 wherein said

establishing a hierarchical structure for organizing
208 communications further comprises:
utilizing a database for establishing said hierarchical
210 structure,
wherein said at least a portion of said communications are
212 stored in said hierarchical structure in said database.

214 13. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 12 further comprising:
216 recording and storing a communication from a user in said
database when said user is not accessing said database at the
218 time said communication is initiated.

220 14. (Previously Presented) A method for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 1 wherein
222 said enabling dynamic interaction further comprises:
stratifying said selected portion of said communications
224 into at least one item type.

226 15. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 14 wherein said at least
228 one item type is a one of an idea, question, event, review,
survey, newsletter, and action item.

230
232 16. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 1 wherein said
presenting a selected portion of said communications further
234 comprises:

filtering said at least a portion of said communications
236 yielding a filtered portion of communications;
consolidating said filtered portion of communications
238 yielding a consolidated portion of communications;
sorting said consolidated portion of communications
240 yielding a sorted portion of communications; and
presenting said sorted portion of communications

242 according to a predetermined level of content review.

244 17. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 1 wherein said storing
246 in said hierarchical structure further comprises:

attaching a resource to at least one of said at least a
248 portion of said communications,

wherein said resource is a one of an internal database
250 link, a document/file attachment, and an external Internet
link.

252

18. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
254 within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling
dynamic interaction further comprises:

256 alerting said at least one of said plurality of users to
an activity within the community,

258 wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said
hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical
260 structure, a response from an individual user within the
community, a response from any one of a member of a group of
262 users within the community, a new posting from an individual
user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a
264 member of a group of users within the community.

266 19. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling
268 dynamic interaction further comprises:

alerting said at least one of said plurality of users to
270 a message within the community,

wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home
272 page of said at least one of said plurality of users, to an e-
mail account of said at least one of said plurality of users,
274 to a voice mail box of said at least one of said plurality of
users, and to some other type of communications device of said

276 at least one of said plurality of users.

278 20. (Original) A method for enhancing communication
within a community according to claim 1 wherein said enabling
280 dynamic interaction further comprises:

alerting a select group of others within the community to
282 an activity or a message of said at least one of said
plurality of users,

284 wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said
hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical
286 structure, a response from said at least one of said plurality
of users, a new posting from said at least one of said
288 plurality of users, and

further wherein said message is sent to at least a one of
290 a home page of said select group of others within the
community, to an e-mail account of said select group of others
292 within the community, to a voice mail box of said select group
of others within the community, and to some other type of
294 communications device of said select group of others within
the community.

296

21. (Currently Amended) A computer system for
298 enhancing communication within a community, the computer
system comprising:

300 an application platform running an application that
organizes a plurality of communications, said application
302 further comprising:

a database for storing said plurality of communications;

304 an inherited parameters responsibility module for
establishing a hierarchical structure for said plurality of
306 communications and for distributing control of said
hierarchical structure to a plurality of users within the
308 community, through selection of inherited parameters
comprising parameters defining access by said plurality of
310 users to said plurality of communications organized within

said hierarchical structure;

312 an input module for capturing said plurality of
communications within said hierarchical structure sent by said
314 plurality of users from a plurality of communication devices
and storing at least a portion of said plurality of
316 communications in relation to at least one of a plurality of
topics that is user selected, wherein said plurality of
318 communications comprises at least one link to a resource
associated with said at least a portion of said plurality of
320 communications that is stored, wherein said link is available
for access by authorized users;

322 a thread synchronization module for synchronizing said
plurality of communications within said hierarchical
324 structure;

a reviewing module for presenting said synchronized
326 plurality of communications in said hierarchical structure to
said plurality of users for dynamic interaction enabled
328 through further contributions of communications by said
plurality of users, wherein said further contributions of
330 communications are stored and accessed within said
hierarchical structure in relation to said at least one of a
332 plurality of topics that is user selected, wherein said
further contributions are associated with at least one
334 discussion thread comprising recorded communication under said
at least one of a plurality of topics that is conducted
336 between participating users of said plurality of users; and

an output module for outputting a plurality of responses
338 to said plurality of communications from said plurality of
users to said plurality of communication devices.

340

22. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
342 communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
said application platform is a one of a centralized
344 application platform architecture and a distributed
application platform architecture,

346 wherein said distributed application platform
architecture has a plurality of databases for storing
348 distributively said plurality of communications.

350 23. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 22 further
352 comprising:

 for said distributed application platform architecture,
354 an inherited parameters synchronization module for determining
a one of a plurality of application platforms of said
356 distributed application platform that contains a portion of
said plurality of communications sought by a one of said
358 plurality of users, and for routing said one of said plurality
of users to said one of a plurality of application platforms;
360 and

 a content synchronization module for exchanging and
362 synchronizing content between said plurality of databases.

364 24. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
366 said application further comprises:

 a content access interface for determining a current
368 hierarchical structure of said database accessible by said
plurality of users;

370 an authorization module for authorizing each of said
plurality of users to access a portion of said plurality of
372 communications stored in said database to which each of said
plurality of users have access rights and in conjunction with
374 said inherited parameters responsibility module;

 an interaction control module for determining a dynamic
376 interaction capability for said plurality of users with said
plurality of communications stored in said database to which
378 said plurality of users have access rights in conjunction with
said inherited parameters responsibility module; and

380 a content prioritizing interface for sorting and
prioritizing the order said plurality of communications are
382 presented to each of said plurality of users for review.

384 25. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 21 further
386 comprising:

a recording module accessible by said plurality of
388 communication devices,

wherein said recording module, after a user input is
390 received in a one of said plurality of communication devices
on a record option, queries said database causing said
392 database to deliver to said one of said plurality of
communication devices said hierarchical structure of said
394 plurality of communications, and

further wherein said recording module receives a user
396 selection input of a topic within said hierarchical structure
with which to associate a communication from said one of said
398 plurality of communication devices, and

further wherein said recording module records and stores
400 in said database said communication sent from said one of said
plurality of communication devices.

402

26. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
404 communication within a community according to claim 25 wherein
said recording module resides on said one of said plurality of
406 communication devices.

408 27. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 25 wherein
410 said recording module resides on said application and is
accessed over a communication channel by a user input on said
412 record option selected from a tool bar displayed on said one
of said plurality of communication devices.

414

28. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
416 communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
said inherited parameters responsibility module further
418 comprises:

a hierarchy initiation module for creating a plurality of
420 headings in a top-level hierarchy and for assigning at least
one heading leader for each of said plurality of headings, and

422 for creating a plurality of categories in a mid-level
hierarchy and for assigning at least one category leader for
424 each of said plurality of categories, and

for creating a plurality of topics in a low-level
426 hierarchy and for assigning at least one topic leader for each
of said plurality of topics,

428 wherein each of said stored plurality of communications
becomes an item indexed to at least one of said plurality of
430 topics.

432 29. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
434 said input module further comprises:

a resource attachment module for attaching a resource to
436 at least a one of said plurality of communications,

wherein said resource is a one of an internal database
438 link, a document/file attachment, and an external Internet
link.

440

30. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
442 communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
said thread synchronization module further comprises:

444 an initial priority-based content placement module for
determining a priority assignment for an initial communication
446 so that when reviewed by a one of said plurality of users
accessing said application, said initial communication is
448 reviewed in proper relationship to a portion of said plurality
of communications related to said initial communication; and

450 a response priority-based content placement module for
determining a priority assignment for a response communication
452 so that when reviewed by a one of said plurality of users
accessing said application, said response communication is
454 reviewed in proper relationship to a portion of said plurality
of communications related to said response communication.

456

31. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
458 communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
said reviewing module further comprises:

460 a filter module for setting at least one filter
parameter,

462 wherein said at least one filter parameter is at
least a one of a filter out parameter that filters out a
464 first portion of said synchronized plurality of
communications and a filter in parameter that filters in
466 a second portion of said synchronized plurality of
communications for review by a user; and

468 a consolidation reviewing interface for setting a level
of content review,

470 wherein said set level of content review is a one of
a full review, a summary only review, a title only
472 review, and an all responses review.

474 32. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
476 said reviewing module further comprises:

a customized interactive reviewing module for creating a
478 digital binder,

wherein said customized interactive reviewing module
480 allows each of said plurality of users to aggregate in said
digital binder a specific portion of said plurality of
482 communications most useful to each of said plurality of users.

484 33. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 32 wherein
486 said input module and said thread synchronization module
update said digital binder in real time with new content
488 received in said application related to said specific portion
of said plurality of communications aggregated in said digital
490 binder.

492 34. (Original) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 21 wherein
494 said application further comprises:

an alerts module for setting automatic alerts,
496 wherein a select group of said plurality of users can be
automatically alerted to at least one activity or at least one
498 message, wherein said at least one activity is a one of a
topic within said hierarchical structure, an item type within
500 said hierarchical structure, a response from an individual
user within the community, a response from any one of a member
502 of a group of users within the community, a new posting from
an individual user within the community, and a new posting
504 from any one of a member of a group of users within the
community,

506 and further wherein said at least one message is sent to
at least a one of a home page of said select group of said
508 plurality of users, to an e-mail account of said select group
of said plurality of users, to a voice mail box of said select
510 group of said plurality of users, and to some other type of
communications device of said select group of said plurality
512 of users.

514 35. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing
communication within a community, the method comprising the
516 steps of:

(a) receiving in an application in an application
518 platform a communication sent by a user from a first

520 communication device, wherein said communication is associated
522 with a user selected topic of a plurality of topics such that
said user selected topic is selected by said user, and
receiving a link to a resource associated with said
communication;

524 (b) determining an access right said user has to
information stored in a database of said application in said
526 application platform;

(c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization
528 parameters, and interaction control parameters for said
application;

530 (d) granting access to said user, according to said
access right of said user, to a portion of said information
532 stored in said database, wherein said portion of said
information is stored in association with said user selected
534 topic;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said
536 user with said portion of said information based on said
database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said
538 interaction control parameters;

(f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said
540 information;

(g) presenting said ~~ordered~~ said portion of said
542 information that is ordered to said user for review;

(h) accepting an initial input from said user according
544 to said dynamic interaction capability from said first
communication device for storage in said database, wherein
546 said initial input comprises said communication and said link;
and

548 (i) outputting said initial input from said user to at
least a second communication device.

550

36. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
552 said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said
access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an

554 exclusive access, and
further wherein said inclusive access allows access to
556 said information stored in said database except where excluded
by said authorization parameters and said interaction control
558 parameters, and

further wherein said exclusive access allows access to
560 said information stored in said database only where explicitly
assigned.

562

37. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
564 said current database hierarchy comprises:

a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level
566 subject;

at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least
568 one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject
related to at least one of said at least one top-level
570 subject; and

a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level
572 subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level
subject,

574 wherein said initial input becomes an item indexed to at
least one of said at least one low-level subject.

576

38. (Original) A method according to claim 37 wherein
578 said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at
580 least one top-level subject;

at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at
582 least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at
584 least one low-level subject.

586 39. (Original) A method according to claim 37 wherein
said current database hierarchy further comprises:

588 at least one top-level authorization parameter and at

least one top-level interaction control parameter associated
590 with each of said at least one top-level subject;
at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at
592 least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and
594 at least one low-level authorization parameter and at
least one low-level interaction control parameter associated
596 with each of said at least one low-level subject.

598 40. (Original) A method according to claim 39 wherein
said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said
600 at least one low-level interaction control parameter
associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is
602 inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to
said at least one low-level subject, and
604 further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization
parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control
606 parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level
subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject
608 related to said at least one mid-level subject, and
further wherein said at least one top-level authorization
610 parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control
parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level
612 subject is inherited from a web master.

614 41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim
35 wherein said determining dynamic interaction capability
616 further comprises:
stratifying said portion of said information into at
618 least one item type.

620 42. (Original) A method according to claim 41 wherein
said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea,
622 question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

624 43. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
each of said authorization parameters has at least one access
626 level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one
access level provides more management control than a lower one
628 of each of said at least one access level.

630 44. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
each of said interaction control parameters has at least one
632 control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least
one control level provides more management control than a
634 lower one of each of said at least one control level.

636 45. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
said presenting step further comprises:
638 presenting alerts to said user to an activity within the
community,
640 wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said
hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical
642 structure, a response from an individual user within the
community, a response from any one of a member of a group of
644 users within the community, a new posting from an individual
user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a
646 member of a group of users within the community.

648 46. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
said presenting step further comprises:
650 presenting alerts to said user to a message within the
community,
652 wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home
page of said user, to an e-mail account of said user, to a
654 voice mail box of said user, and to some other type of
communications device of said user.

656 47. (Original) A method according to claim 35 wherein
658 said outputting step further comprises:

outputting said initial input as an alert to a select
660 group of users,
wherein said initial input is output to at least a one of
662 a home page of said select group of users, an e-mail account
of said select group of users, a voice mail box of said select
664 group of users, and to some other type of communications
device of said select group of users.

666

48. (Currently Amended) A method for enhancing
668 communication within a community, the method comprising the
steps of:

670 (a) receiving in an application in an application
platform a communication sent by a user from a first
672 communication device, wherein said communication is associated
with a user selected topic of a plurality of topics such that
674 said user selected topic is selected by said user, and
receiving a link to a resource associated with said
676 communication;

(b) determining an access right said user has to
678 information stored in a database of said application in said
application platform;

680 (c) accessing a current database hierarchy, authorization
parameters, and interaction control parameters for said
682 application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said
684 access right of said user, to a portion of said information
stored in said database, wherein said portion of said
686 information is stored in association with said user selected
topic;

688 (e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for said
user with said portion of said information based on said
690 database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said
interaction control parameters;

692 (f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said
information;

694 (g) presenting ~~said ordered~~ said portion of said
information that is ordered to said user for review;
696 (h) receiving a selection input by said user an item type
to respond to;
698 (i) accepting a response input from said user according
to said dynamic interaction capability from said first
700 communication device for storage in said database, wherein
said response input comprises said communication and said
702 link; and
(j) outputting said response input from said user to at
704 least a second communication device.

706 49. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said
708 access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an
exclusive access, and
710 further wherein said inclusive access allows access to
said information stored in said database except where excluded
712 by said authorization parameters and said interaction control
parameters, and
714 further wherein said exclusive access allows access to
said information stored in said database only where explicitly
716 assigned.

718 50. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
said current database hierarchy comprises:
720 a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level
subject;
722 at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least
one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject
724 related to at least one of said at least one top-level
subject; and
726 a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level
subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level
728 subject,

wherein said response input becomes an item indexed to at
730 least one of said at least one low-level subject.

732 51. (Original) A method according to claim 50 wherein
said current database hierarchy further comprises:
734 at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at
least one top-level subject;
736 at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at
least one mid-level subject; and
738 at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at
least one low-level subject.

740
52. (Original) A method according to claim 50 wherein
742 said current database hierarchy further comprises:
at least one top-level authorization parameter and at
744 least one top-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one top-level subject;
746 at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at
least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated
748 with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and
at least one low-level authorization parameter and at
750 least one low-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one low-level subject.

752
53. (Original) A method according to claim 52 wherein
754 said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said
at least one low-level interaction control parameter
756 associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is
inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to
758 said at least one low-level subject, and
further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization
760 parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control
parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level
762 subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject
related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

764 further wherein said at least one top-level authorization
parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control
766 parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level
subject is inherited from a web master.

768
54. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
770 said determining dynamic interaction capability further
comprises:

772 stratifying said portion of said information into at
least one item type.

774
55. (Original) A method according to claim 54 wherein
776 said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea,
question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

778
56. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
780 each of said authorization parameters has at least one access
level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one
782 access level provides more management control than a lower one
of each of said at least one access level.

784
57. (Original) A method according to claim 48 wherein
786 each of said interaction control parameters has at least one
control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least
788 one control level provides more management control than a
lower one of each of said at least one control level.

790 58. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

792 (a) receiving in an application in an application
platform a communication sent by a user from a first
794 communication device;

(b) determining an access right said user has to
796 information stored in a database of said application in said
application platform;

798 (c) accessing a current database hierarchy,
authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters
800 for said application;

(d) granting access to said user, according to said
802 access right of said user, to a portion of said information
stored in said database;

804 (e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for
said user with said portion of said information based on said
806 database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said
interaction control parameters;

808 (f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said
information;

810 (g) receiving a request by said user to customize
reviewable content by creating a digital binder;

812 (h) receiving at least one selection input from said
user of a part of said portion of said information stored in
814 said database to include in said digital binder;

(i) sorting said part of said portion of said
816 information; and

(j) presenting for review to said user said digital
818 binder having said sorted part of said portion of said
information.

2 58. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

4 (a) receiving in an application in an application
platform a communication sent by a user from a first
communication device;

6 (b) determining an access right said user has to
information stored in a database of said application in said
8 application platform;

10 (c) accessing a current database hierarchy,
authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters
for said application;

12 (d) granting access to said user, according to said
access right of said user, to a portion of said information
14 stored in said database;

(e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for
16 said user with said portion of said information based on said
database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said
18 interaction control parameters;

20 (f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said
information;

22 (g) receiving a request by said user to customize
reviewable content by creating a digital binder;

24 (h) receiving at least one selection input from said
user of a part of said portion of said information stored in
said database to include in said digital binder;

26 (i) sorting said part of said portion of said
information; and

28 (j) presenting for review to said user said digital
binder having said sorted part of said portion of said
30 information.

2 59. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein
said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said
access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an
4 exclusive access, and

6 further wherein said inclusive access allows access to
said information stored in said database except where excluded
by said authorization parameters and said interaction control
8 parameters, and

10 further wherein said exclusive access allows access to
said information stored in said database only where explicitly
assigned.

60. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein
2 said current database hierarchy comprises:

4 a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level
subject;

6 at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least
one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject
related to at least one of said at least one top-level
8 subject; and

10 a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level
subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level
subject,

12 wherein said part of said portion of said information in
said digital binder remains linked in real time to said
14 current database hierarchy.

61. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 60 wherein
2 said current database hierarchy further comprises:

4 at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at
least one top-level subject;

6 at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at
least one mid-level subject; and

8 at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at
least one low-level subject.

62. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 60 wherein
2 said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level authorization parameter and at
4 least one top-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one top-level subject;

6 at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at
least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated
8 with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and

at least one low-level authorization parameter and at
10 least one low-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one low-level subject.

63. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 62 wherein
2 said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said
at least one low-level interaction control parameter
4 associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is
inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to
6 said at least one low-level subject, and

further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization
8 parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control
parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level
10 subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject
related to said at least one mid-level subject, and

12 further wherein said at least one top-level authorization
parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control
14 parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level
subject is inherited from a web master.

64. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein
2 said determining dynamic interaction capability further
comprises:

4 stratifying said portion of said information into at
least one item type.

65. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 64 wherein
2 said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea,
question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

66. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein
2 each of said authorization parameters has at least one access
level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one
4 access level provides more management control than a lower one
of each of said at least one access level.

67. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 wherein
2 each of said interaction control parameters has at least one
control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least
4 one control level provides more management control than a
lower one of each of said at least one control level.

68. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 further
2 comprising:
outputting said digital binder to at least a second
4 communication device over a communications channel.

69. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 58 further
2 comprising:
updating said digital binder in real time with new
4 content received in said application related to said at least
one selection input.

2 70. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
within a community, the method comprising the steps of:

4 (a) receiving in an application of an application
platform a communication sent by a user from a first
communication device;

6 (b) determining an access right said user has to
information stored in a database of said application in said
8 application platform;

10 (c) accessing a current database hierarchy,
authorization parameters, and interaction control parameters
for said application;

12 (d) granting access to said user, according to said
access right of said user, to a portion of said information
14 stored in said database;

16 (e) determining a dynamic interaction capability for
said user with said portion of said information based on said
database hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said
18 interaction control parameters;

20 (f) prioritizing an order of said portion of said
information;

22 (g) presenting said ordered said portion of said
information to said user for review;

24 (h) accepting selection input from said user of a
portion of said ordered said portion of said information for
output; and

26 (i) outputting said portion of said ordered said portion
of said information to at least a second communication device.

2 71. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein
said outputting step further comprises the following steps:

4 consolidating said portion of said ordered said portion
of said information;

6 sorting said portion of said ordered said portion of said
information;

8 setting a level of content review for said portion of
said ordered said portion of said information,

10 wherein said level of content review is a one of a
full review, a summary only review, a title only review,
and an all responses review; and

12 formatting said portion of said ordered said portion of
said information in said level of content review.

72. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein
2 said access right is based upon an access status, wherein said
access status comprises a one of an inclusive access and an
4 exclusive access, and

6 further wherein said inclusive access allows access to
said information stored in said database except where excluded
by said authorization parameters and said interaction control
8 parameters, and

10 further wherein said exclusive access allows access to
said information stored in said database only where explicitly
assigned.

73. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein
2 said current database hierarchy comprises:

4 a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level
subject;

6 at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least
one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject
related to at least one of said at least one top-level
8 subject; and

10 a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level
subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level
subject.

74. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 73 wherein
2 said current database hierarchy further comprises:

at least one top-level leader assigned to each of said at
4 least one top-level subject;
at least one mid-level leader assigned to each of said at
6 least one mid-level subject; and
at least one low-level leader assigned to each of said at
8 least one low-level subject.

75. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 73 wherein
2 said current database hierarchy further comprises:
at least one top-level authorization parameter and at
4 least one top-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one top-level subject;
6 at least one mid-level authorization parameter and at
least one mid-level interaction control parameter associated
8 with each of said at least one mid-level subject; and
at least one low-level authorization parameter and at
10 least one low-level interaction control parameter associated
with each of said at least one low-level subject.

76. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 75 wherein
2 said at least one low-level authorization parameter and said
at least one low-level interaction control parameter
4 associated with each of said at least one low-level subject is
inherited from said at least one mid-level subject related to
6 said at least one low-level subject, and
further wherein said at least one mid-level authorization
8 parameter and said at least one mid-level interaction control
parameter associated with each of said at least one mid-level
10 subject is inherited from said at least one top-level subject
related to said at least one mid-level subject, and
12 further wherein said at least one top-level authorization
parameter and said at least one top-level interaction control
14 parameter associated with each of said at least one top-level
subject is inherited from a web master.

2 77. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein
said determining dynamic interaction capability further
comprises:

4 stratifying said portion of said information into at
least one item type.

2 78. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 77 wherein
said at least one item type comprises a one of an idea,
question, event, review, survey, newsletter, and action item.

2 79. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein
each of said authorization parameters has at least one access
level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least one
4 access level provides more management control than a lower one
of each of said at least one access level.

2 80. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 70 wherein
each of said interaction control parameters has at least one
control level, wherein a higher one of each of said at least
4 one control level provides more management control than a
lower one of each of said at least one control level.

81. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community, the computer system
comprising:

4 an application platform having an application for
receiving a communication sent by a user from a first
6 communication device, said application further comprising:

a database for storing information in said
8 application;

an authorization interface module for determining an
10 access right of said user to said stored information;

an inherited parameters responsibility module for
12 setting a current database hierarchy, at least one
authorization parameter, and at least one interaction
14 control parameter in said application;

an authorization module for granting access to said
16 user, according to said access right of said user, to a
portion of said information stored in said database;

an interaction control module for determining a
18 dynamic interaction capability for said user with said
portion of said information based on said database
20 hierarchy, said authorization parameters, and said
interaction control parameters;

a content prioritizing interface for ordering said
24 portion of said information;

a reviewing module for presenting said ordered
26 portion of said information to said user for review;

an input module for accepting input from said
28 communication from said user;

a thread synchronization module for synchronizing
30 said input from said communication from said user with
said information stored in said database; and

32 an output module for outputting a response from said
user to at least a second communication device.

82. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said application platform is a one of a centralized
4 application platform architecture and a distributed
application platform architecture,
6 wherein said distributed application platform
architecture has a plurality of databases for storing
8 distributively said plurality of communications.

83. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 82 further
comprising:
4 for said distributed application platform architecture, a
content synchronization module for exchanging and
6 synchronizing content between said plurality of databases.

84. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 said
application further comprises:
4 a content access interface for determining said current
database hierarchy accessible by said user; and
6 further wherein said content prioritizing interface sorts
and prioritizes said portion of said information.

85. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said current database hierarchy comprises:
4 a top-level hierarchy having at least one top-level
subject;
6 at least one mid-level hierarchy, each of said at least
one mid-level hierarchy having at least one mid-level subject
8 related to at least one of said at least one top-level
subject; and

10 a low-level hierarchy having at least one low-level
subject related to at least one of said at least one mid-level
12 subject.

86. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 further
comprising:

4 a recording module accessible by said first communication
device,

6 wherein said recording module, after a user input is
received in said first communication device from said user on
8 a record option, queries said database causing said database
to deliver to said first communication device said current
10 database hierarchy, and

 further wherein said recording module receives a user
12 selection input from said user of a topic within said current
database hierarchy with which to associate said input from
14 said communication from said user from said first
communication device, and

16 further wherein said recording module records and stores
in said database said input from said communication sent from
18 said first communication device.

87. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 86 wherein
said recording module resides on said first communication
4 device.

88. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 86 wherein
said recording module resides on said application and is
4 accessed over a communication channel by a user input on said
record option selected from a tool bar displayed on said first
6 communication device.

2 89. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said inherited parameters responsibility module further
4 comprises:

6 a hierarchy initiation module for creating a plurality of
headings in a top-level hierarchy and for assigning at least
one heading leader for each of said plurality of headings, and
8 for creating a plurality of categories in a mid-level
hierarchy and for assigning at least one category leader for
10 each of said plurality of categories, and

for creating a plurality of topics in a low-level
12 hierarchy and for assigning at least one topic leader for each
of said plurality of topics,

14 wherein each of said stored information becomes an item
indexed to at least one of said plurality of topics.

2 90. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said input module further comprises:

4 a resource attachment module for attaching a resource to
said input from said communication from said user,

6 wherein said resource is a one of an internal database
link, a document/file attachment, and an external Internet
8 link.

2 91. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said thread synchronization module further comprises:

4 an initial priority-based content placement module for
determining a priority assignment for an initial communication
6 so that when reviewed by said user accessing said application,
said initial communication is reviewed in proper relationship
8 to a plurality of communications related to said initial
communication; and

10 a response priority-based content placement module for
determining a priority assignment for said response from said
12 user so that when reviewed by at least a second user accessing
said application, said response is reviewed in proper
14 relationship to a plurality of communications related to said
response.

92. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said reviewing module further comprises:
4 a filter module for setting at least one filter
parameter; and
6 a consolidation reviewing interface for setting a level
of content review,
8 wherein said set level of content review is a one of a
full review, a summary only review, a title only review, and
10 an all responses review.

93. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said reviewing module further comprises:
4 a customized interactive reviewing module for creating a
digital binder,
6 wherein said customized interactive reviewing module
allows said user to aggregate in said digital binder a
8 specific portion of said information most useful to said user.

94. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 93 wherein
said input module and said thread synchronization module
4 update said digital binder in real time with new content
received in said application related to said specific portion
6 of said information aggregated in said digital binder.

95. (Withdrawn) A computer system for enhancing
2 communication within a community according to claim 81 wherein
said application further comprises:
4 an alerts module for setting automatic alerts,
wherein said user can be automatically alerted to at
6 least one activity or at least one message, wherein said at
least one activity is a one of a topic within said database
8 hierarchy, an item type within said database hierarchy, a
response from an individual user within the community, a
10 response from any one of a member of a group of users within
the community, a new posting from an individual user within
12 the community, and a new posting from any one of a member of a
group of users within the community, and
14 further wherein said at least one message is sent to at
least a one of a home page of at least one other user, an e-
16 mail account of said at least one other user, a voice mail box
of said at least one other user, and to some other type of
18 communications device of said at least one other user.

2 96. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
within a community, the method comprising:

4 (a) establishing a hierarchical structure for organizing
communications between a plurality of users within the
community;

6 (b) distributing control through selection of inherited
parameters of said hierarchical structure to at least one of
8 said plurality of users, wherein said inherited parameters
comprise parameters defining access by said plurality of users
10 to said communications organized within said hierarchical
structure;

12 (c) storing in said hierarchical structure at least a
portion of said communications received from said plurality of
14 users from at least one of a plurality of input devices in
relation to at least one of a plurality of topics;

16 (d) prioritizing said at least a portion of said
communications within said hierarchical structure;

18 (e) presenting to at least a one of said plurality of
users through said at least one of a plurality of input
20 devices a selected portion of said communications stored in
said hierarchical structure, wherein said selected portion of
22 said communications is related under a topic; and

24 (f) alerting said at least a one of said plurality of
users to an activity related to said topic occurring within
the community,

26 wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said
hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical
28 structure, a response from an individual user within the
community, a response from any one of a member of a group of
30 users within the community, a new posting from an individual
user within the community, and a new posting from any one of a
32 member of a group of users within the community.

97. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
2 within a community according to claim 96 wherein step (f) is
replaced by the following new step (f):

4 (f) alerting said at least a one of said plurality of
users to a message within the community,

6 wherein said message is sent to at least a one of a home
page of said at least one of said plurality of users, to an e-
8 mail account of said at least one of said plurality of users,
to a voice mail box of said at least one of said plurality of
10 users, and to some other type of communications device of said
at least one of said plurality of users.

98. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
2 within a community according to claim 96 wherein step (f) is
replaced by the following new step (f):

4 (f) alerting others within the community to an activity
or a message of said at least a one of said plurality of
6 users,

wherein said activity is a one of a topic within said
8 hierarchical structure, an item type within said hierarchical
structure, a response from said at least one of said plurality
10 of users, a new posting from said at least one of said
plurality of users, and

12 further wherein said message is sent to at least a one of
a home page of said others within the community, to an e-mail
14 account of said others within the community, to a voice mail
box of said others within the community, and to some other
16 type of communications device of said others within the
community.

99. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
2 within a community according to claim 96 wherein step (f) is
replaced by the following new step (f) and further comprising
4 the steps (g) through (i):

(f) setting a deadline for a rapid feedback evaluation
6 of at least one item type;

(g) selecting a type of response for said rapid feedback
8 evaluation of said at least one item type;

(h) selecting a group of users to respond to said rapid
10 feedback evaluation of said at least one item type;

(i) sending said at least one item type and said
12 selected type of response to said selected group of users; and

(j) receiving a plurality of said selected type of
14 response from said selected group of users to said at least
one item type.

16

100. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing communication
2 within a community according to claim 99 wherein said at least
one item type is a one of an idea, question, event, review,
4 survey, newsletter, and action item.